

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 05419 221316Z

53

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W
----- 076671

R 221130Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7903
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T CAIRO 5419

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBU: EGYPT AND PALESTINIANS

REF: CAIRO 5370 AND 5417

1. REFTELS REPORT PROLIFIC PRESS COMMENTS OF PAST TWO DAYS, INCLUDING FAHMY'S "INTERPRETATION," ON PLO-JORDANIAN RELATIONSHIP AS WORKED OUT DURING RECENT MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT SADAT AND KING HUSSEIN. IT IS CLEAR THAT EGYPTINS, WHO THOUGHT THEY HAD ARRANGED A GOOD DEAL FOR THE PALESTINIANS BY PERSUADING HUSSEIN TO ACCEPT PLO JURISDICTION OVER ALL PALESTINIANS OUTSIDE JORDAN PROPER, ARE SOMEWHAT TAKEN ABACK AND EMBARRASSED BY STRONGLY ADVERSE PLO REACTION.

2. EHEN WITH FAHMY LAST NIGHT I ASKED HIM ABOUT THIS. HE CLAIMED DISUCCIONS ARE STILL GOING ON WITH PALESTINIANS TO IMPRESS UPON THEM WHAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAD ACHIEVED FOR THEM. HE WAS CLEARLY AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT PUBLICLY NEGATIVE PLO REACTION IS A SLAP AT SADAT. HE WAS RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS THE MATTER IN ANY DETAIL.

3. LATER IN THE EVENING, I SAW FONMIN UNDERSECRETARY MOHAMED RIAD. RIAD TOLD ME HE HAD MET FOR THREE HOURS YESTERDAY AND TWO HOURS THE PREVIOUS DAY WITH PLO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 05419 221316Z

REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL COMPONENT ELEMENTS. HE DESCRIBED

THEIR REACTION AS "FURIOUS" AND SAID, IN ANSWER TO MY SPECIFIC QUESTION, THAT THIS INCLUDED ARAFAT'S REPRESENTATIVE. SPECIFICALLY, PLO REPRESENTATIVES OBJECT VIGOROUSLY TO THE FACT THAT SADAT ACKNOWLEDGED HUSSEIN MIGHT SPEAK FOR PALESTINIANS IN JORDAN ITSELF. THEY CONTENDED THIS IS A BETRAYAL OF THE ALGIERS FORMULA AND INSISTED PLO MUST BE RECOGNIZED AS THE SOLE SPOKESMAN FOR ALL PALESTINIANS EVERYWHERE.

4. RIAD SAID HE HAD REMINDIED PALESTINIANS THAT SADAT HAD, IN EFFECT, OBTAINED HUSSEIN'S ACQUIESCENCE IN PLO JURISDICTION OVER PALESTINIANS IN THE WEST BANK, GAZA AND THOSE DISPLACED IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES. HUSSEIN'S INSISTANCE THAT HE SHOULD SPEAK FOR PALESTINIANS IN JORDAN ITSELF WAS NOT UNREASONABLE. AT SUCH TIME AS THE WEST BANK IS AGAIN UNDER ARAB SOVEREIGNTY, PALESTINIANS NOW IN JORDAN WHO WISH TO MOVE THERE TO GET OUT FROM UNDER HUSSEIN'S CONTROL ARE FREE TO DO SO. AS NOW, HOWEVER, RIAD ACKNOWLEDGED, PLO REPRESENTATIVES REMAIN UNCONVINCED AND BALKY. HE EXPECTED TO HOLD FURTHER TALKS WITH THEM.

5. WHILE RIAD CONCEDED GOE HAD EXPECTED NEGATIVE REACTION FROM HABBASH, HAWATAMY, JIBRIL AND SA'IQA REPRESENTATIVES, HE WAS OBVIOUSLY SURPRISED AT FATH'S INCLUDING ARAFAT'S, EQUALLY ADVERSE REACTION. RIAD REPEATEDLY INDICATED IMPORTANCE GOE ATTACHES TO SATISFYING ARAFAT AS A "MODERATE" IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE LATTER'S LOSING CONTROL OVER FATH AND THE PLO.

6. COMMENT: RIAD'S ACCOUNT IS SOMEWHAT AT VARIANCE WITH RIFAI'S VERSION REPORTED AMMAN 4213. IN THEIR TALKS WITH THE PALESTINIANS, EGYPTIANS APPEAR TO BE TRYING TO PROJECT THE "TRUST" CONCEPT FOR GAZA AND ESPECIALLY THE WEST BANK AS A POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENT DESIGNED TO FURTHER PLO OBJECTIVES. THEY ARE CONSCIOUS THAT VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUS PALESTINIAN REJECTION OF SADAT-HUSSEIN DEAL IS POTENTIALLY DAMAGING TO SADAT'S IMAGE AND ABILITY TO INFLUENCE EVEN ARAFAT. THEY MAY BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS, BUT IT WILL BE ROUGH GOING. ARAFAT IS EXPECTED

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 CAIRO 05419 221316Z

HERE IN NEXT FEW DAYS AND EGYPTIANS MAY HAVE TO BRACKTRACK ON THEIR AGREEMENT WITH HUSSEIN IN ORDER TO DO SOME BADLY NEEDED FENCE MEDNING WITH PALESTINIANS.
EILTS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, PALESTINIANS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CAIRO05419
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740197-0375
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740730/aaaaazdn.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: CAIRO 5370 AND 5417
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : EGYPT AND PALESTINIANS
TAGS: PFOR, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005